

Joan Donovan

CURRENT POSITION

Director of the Technology and Social Change Research Project 2019

Harvard Kennedy School- Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics, and Public Policy

- Develop and design a research and training program to build the field of Critical Internet Studies
- Hire and manage a distributed research team of post docs, researchers, visiting faculty, and fellows
- Public engagement on research themes with diverse audiences across civil society, academia, industry, and newsrooms
- Successfully raised over \$1 Million in funding to begin work on the “Global Media Manipulation Case Book,” an online encyclopedia of media manipulation campaigns
- [Technology and Social Change Research Project Website](#)

EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy Sociology & Science Studies- University of California San Diego 2008-2015

- **Dissertation Research Project:** *Technologies of Social Change: Mapping the Infrastructure of the Occupy Movement from #OccupyWallStreet to #OccupySandy*
- **Dissertation Committee:** Martha Lampland (UCSD- Chair), Geoffrey Bowker (UCI- Informatics), Manuel Castells (USC- Communication), Kelly Gates (UCSD- Communication), Isaac Martin (UCSD- Sociology), Charles Thorpe (UCSD- Sociology)

Master of Arts Sociology- Concordia University, Montreal QC 2006-2008

- **Thesis:** *A History of Stigma: Towards a Sociology of Mental Illness and American Psychiatry*

Bachelor of Arts Sociology- Concordia University, Montreal QC 2004-2006

- Degree Conferred with Great Distinction

Business Major- University of Massachusetts, Boston MA 2001

Liberal Arts Major- Northeastern University, Boston MA 1997-1999

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS

Donovan, Joan. 2018. “[After the #Keyword: Eliciting, Sustaining, and Coordinating Participation Across the Occupy Movement.](#)” *Social Media + Society* 4 (1):1-12.

Donovan, Joan. 2018. “[Toward a Militant Ethnography of Infrastructure: Cybercartographies of Order, Scale, and Scope across the Occupy Movement.](#)” *Journal of Contemporary Ethnography*, August 2018.

Donovan, Joan, Irene Pasquetto, and Jennifer Pierre. 2018. “[Cracking Open the Black Box of Genetic Ancestry Testing.](#)” in *Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences 2018* (HICSS-51).

Currie, Morgan, Paris, Britt, and Donovan, Joan. 2018. “[What difference do data make? Data management and social change](#)” *Online Information Review*.

Currie, Morgan, Donovan, Joan, and Paris, Paris. 2018. “[Preserving for a More Just Future: Tactics of Activist Data Archiving.](#)” In *Data Science Landscape: Towards Research Standards and Protocols*, edited by Usha Mujoo Munshi and Neeta Verma, 67–78. Studies in Big Data. Singapore: Springer Singapore.

Donovan, Joan. 2017. “[From Social Movements to Social Surveillance.](#)” *ACM XRDS* 23 (3): 24–27.

Donovan, Joan. 2016. “[Can you hear me now? Phreaking the Party Line from Operators to Occupy.](#)” *Information, Communication, & Society* 19(5):601-617.

ACADEMIC PUBLICATIONS CONTINUED

- Terranova, Tiziana. and Donovan, Joan. 2013. "Occupy Social Networks: The Paradoxes of using Corporate Social Media in Networked Movements" in Geert Lovink and Miriam Rasch (eds.) *Unlike Us: Social Media Monopolies and their Alternatives*. Amsterdam: Institute of Network Cultures.
- Donovan, Joan, Baker, Karen. 2011. The Shape of Information Management: Fostering Collaboration across Data, Science, and Technology in a Design Studio. *Scripps Institution of Oceanography*; University of California eScholarship.

MANUSCRIPTS IN PROGRESS

- Donovan, Joan. "The Ferguson Effect: Public Sociology and the Making of an American Statistic"
- Donovan, Joan. "Governing the Hypercommons: Networked Social Movements and Technologies of Social Change" Book manuscript in progress.
- Panofsky, Aaron, and Joan Donovan. Preprint: "Genetic Ancestry Testing among White Nationalists."

WHITE PAPER AND E-PUBLICATIONS

- Caplan, Robyn, Lauren Hanson, and Joan Donovan. 2018. "Dead Reckoning: Navigating Content Moderation After 'Fake News.'" Data & Society Research Institute.
- Donovan, Joan, Caplan, Robyn, Matthews, Jeanna, Hanson, Lauren. 2018. Algorithmic Accountability. Data & Society Research Institute.
- Nadler, Tony, Crain, Matt, Donovan, Joan. 2018. "Weaponizing the Digital Influence Machine." Data & Society Research Institute.
- Donovan, Joan and Boyd, Danah. (2018, June 1). "The case for quarantining extremist ideas." *The Guardian*.
- Donovan, J. (2013, September 18). Occupy 3.0- A Slow Network Movement. *Waging Nonviolence*.
- Donovan, J. (2012, September 17). How Occupy Birthed a Rhizome. *Waging Nonviolence*.
- Donovan, J. (2012, June 7). Translating the Quebec Student Protests. *Waging Nonviolence*.
- Donovan, J. (2012, February 6). Conference-calling across the Occupy Rhizome. *Possible-Futures.org: A Project of the Social Science Research Council*.
- Donovan, J. (2011, December 22). What Makes Us Strong. *Possible-Futures.org: A Project of the Social Science Research Council*.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Research Lead- Media Manipulation and Platform Accountability** 2016-2018
Data & Society Research Institute Manhattan NY
- Developed a research agenda on media, disinformation, sociotechnical systems, and corporate accountability
 - Supervised a dynamic research team of fourteen post docs, researchers, visiting faculty, and fellows
 - Public engagement on research themes with universities, civil society organizations, journalists, technologists, and politicians
 - Research Initiative Site: <https://datasociety.net/research/media-manipulation/>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

Postdoctoral Fellow- UCLA's Institute for Society and Genetics 2015-2017
University of California Los Angeles

- At the Participation Lab, I managed a group of nine faculty graduate students and undergraduates, where we investigated the impact of genetic ancestry tests on the worldview of white supremacists using quantitative and qualitative methods.
- **Principal Investigators:**
 - Dr. Christopher Kelty (Information Studies and Anthropology)
 - Dr. Aaron Panofsky (Sociology and Public Policy)

Co-Principal Investigator 2010
Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego

- Conducted a four-month ethnography at the Ocean Informatics Design Studio, where I interviewed scientists and graduate students about the challenges of research practices and data collection.
- Our report describes the history and use of the Ocean Informatics Design Studio located at Scripps Institution of Oceanography at the University of California San Diego. This Design Studio was developed in 2007 with the intended purpose of supporting collaboration in oceanographic research.
- Publication: The Shape of Information Management: Fostering Collaboration across Data, Science, and Technology in a Design Studio

TEACHING POSITIONS

Lecturer: Institute for Society & Genetics, University of California Los Angeles 2016

- Course: Society and Genetics Capstone Seminar
 - The history and social impact of genetics, health, and biological diversity from sociological, anthropological, and philosophical perspectives

Lecturer: Department of Sociology, University of California San Diego 2014-2015

- Course: Comparative Historical Methods
 - Sociological approaches to theory, methods, historical analysis, comparative revolutions, and the influence of technology on politics

Lecturer: Department of Sociology, San Diego Community College District 2010-2011

- Course: Social Problems
- Course: Principles of Sociology

Teaching Assistant or Reader: Department of Sociology, University of California San Diego 2009-2015

- Courses: Classical Sociological Theory, Sociology of Law, Sociology of Healthcare Issues, The Practice of Social Research, Drugs in American Society, The Holocaust, Globalization and Social Development, Criminal Punishment, Crime and Society

FILM, TELEVISION, AND VIDEO

- PBS. 2018. "Quarantining Hate Speech" *The Open Mind*.
- CNN. 2018. "Spreading Hate: The Dark Side of the Internet."
- Data & Society. 2018. "Databite No. 107: Nabihah Syed with Claire Wardle and Joan Donovan."
- Georgetown Law. 2017. "Color of Surveillance."